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Virginia Health Bulletin: The New Virginia Law To Preserve Racial Integrity,

March 1924

BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS. State Board of Health Richmond, Va. August 15, 1924. Dopy of letter to Mrs. Mary Sorrels, Fairfield, Rockbridge Co., Va. Our Volume 1425-14089 is your certificate for the birth of an illegitimate child, Dewey Hubert Hartless, child of Martha Louise Hartless, born March 20th, 1924 at Fairfield. You state that this mother is white. We had occasion to write to you sometime ago in reference to giving the correct color on birth certificates. We are warning you of the penalty in connection with se statements. The Hartless family from Amherst County making false statements. The Hartless family from Amherst County belongs to the mixed people, Indian, white, and colored, and under the new Racial Integrity law cannot be classed as white unless this is someone entirely separate from the Amherst-Irish Creek We want further information from you as to whether she is connected with these people, if so, she cannot be classed as white under the new law. Write us at once. We want to again warn you of the trouble you are liable to get yourself into if you do not give the correct color. It is my duty to see that this law is obeyed and I expect to do it. I am waiting for someone who violates this law to have them in Court. If you want to be the first one, we will give you a chance. Yours very truly. mapleeker. WAP:H Dictated but not read. 1425-14089 STATE REGISTRAR.

Citation: Virginia Health Bulletin: The New Virginia Law To Preserve Racial Integrity, March 1924, Box 76, Folder 8, Virginia Governor (1922-1926: Trinkle), Executive Papers, Acc. 21567b, State Government Records Collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond.